

# Indonesia Dossier



One Muslim convert asked for our prayer to bless him as he sought to be a missionary within the community he'd just left. It was a bold move. Another former Muslim described being turned out by his family, losing his job and his friends after accepting Jesus.

Indonesia has the largest Islamic population in the world. It is among the 50 most persecuted countries on the planet. There are hotspots where being a Christian could be a death sentence. An estimated 10,000 Christians have been killed in recent years on Maluku Islands by Muslims attempting to “Islamify” the population. In many locations, there is a movement to enforce Islam’s strict Sharia law.

“The government recognizes freedom of worship, but often fails to secure Christians’ rights to exercise their faith” according to Open Doors ministry.

In the Aceh province, churches must register with the authorities and are not permitted to evangelize. In other provinces, authorities have forcibly closed churches and Christian organizations.

In 2009, “following complaints from community groups, police forcibly dismantled a church in West Java on the grounds that it did not have a building permit; while similar groups in East Java successfully lobbied for the closure of a Catholic orphanage, claiming it planned to ‘Christianize’ local children,” a story in *Charisma* magazine reported.

Other parts of the country are not as strict. One Climbing For Christ member living there said, “Is free to be Christian.” Another said, “Your religion is your religion.”

Until it infringes on the majority.

That’s why so many churches in Indonesia have gone “underground” or given up a seemingly hopeless battle to build a church in the face of opposition. In one case, a church elder complained, “There are 234 buildings in (omitted) that lack building permits, including a mosque. Why was our house of worship singled out?”

The island of Sumatra was once one of the least evangelized places on earth, according to *Operation World*. But after the 2004 tsunami killed 167,000 people, Christians were able to minister to the hurting.

Muslims learned that those sharing the love of Jesus weren't so bad after all.

There are many other parts of Indonesia that have yet to see the Light. In all, there are 201 unreached people groups — millions who have yet to hear the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ.

### **FAST FACTS**

**Location:** Southeastern Asia.

**Leader:** President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (since Oct. 20, 2004).

**Population:** 242,968,342, the fourth-largest in the world.

**Primary Religion:** Islam (86.1 percent) with less than 9 percent of the population claiming to be Christian.

**Immunizations:** Routine: Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR), Tetanus/Diphtheria, Polio; Hep A; Hep B; Typhoid; Polio; Japanese encephalitis; Rabies; Malaria.

**Visa:** You can obtain a 30-day Tourist Visa for US\$25 cash upon arrival.

**Travel Insurance:** Travel insurance is important! Check your health insurance coverage and send us the following information: Health insurance company name, policy number, and phone number. *Please note that Climbing For Christ will not pay for any insurance or medical treatment you may require as a result of your participation in the mission trip.*

**Currency:** 1 US Dollar = 9475.81 Indonesian rupiah (IDR) as of Sept. 2012.

**Time Difference:** In Jakarta – UTC/GMT +7 hours.

**Food & Water:** Staple foods for Indonesians are rice, yam, sweet potato, potato, taro, cassava, jackfruit, maize and wheat.

**Drink only bottled water or purified water.**

**Electricity:** 220 volts

**Weather:** Wet Season: October to April. Dry season: May to September.

**Gear List:** Will be provided to accepted team members.

**First Aid:** A medical kit will accompany the trek. You should bring your own personal first aid kit consisting of the following: a broad spectrum antibiotic, antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhoea treatment (Imodium), altitude (Diamox), painkillers, Band-Aids, blister treatments, and re-hydration salts (Dioralite). Glucose tablets and multi-vitamin tablets are also a good idea.

**Language:** Sasak. Here are some simple phrases:

**Where are you going?** (the most common greeting) – Ojok um bay?

**Just walking** – Lampat-lampat

**I'm going to Senggigi** – Senggigi wah mo ojok um bay

**Where is?** – Um bay tao?

**How are you?** – Berem bay khabar?  
**I'm fine** – Bagus / salah  
**And you?** – Berem bay seeda?  
**How many children do you have?** – Pira kanak de?  
**See you** – Yak la low  
**No problem** – Nday kambay kambay  
**0** – Ndarak  
**1** – Skek  
**2** – Dua  
**3** – Telu  
**4** – Empat  
**5** – Lima  
**6** – Enam  
**7** – Pitook  
**8** – Baluk  
**9** – Siwak  
**10** – Sepulu

**Communication:** The team will have a Satellite phone and will send daily dispatches to allow our friends and family to follow along on our mission.

**Before you go:** Return the following information to [info@ClimbingForChrist.org](mailto:info@ClimbingForChrist.org).

- Acknowledgement of Risk
- Certificate of physical fitness
- Paper copy of passport
- Travel insurance information
- Membership profile

Note: This paperwork will be emailed with Team Updates.

**Suggested Reading List:**

- *True Religion*, by Palmer Chinchin
- *Radical* by David Platt
- *Before You Go – A 40 day Devotional* by Jack Hempfling
- *Peace Child* by Don Richardson

**Embassy Contacts for North Americans:**

**Indonesia – JAKARTA**, Embassy of Canada

**Address:** World Trade Centre, 6th Floor, Jl. Jend Sudirman, Kav. 29, Jakarta 12920, Indonesia.

**Tel.:** 62 (21) 2550-7800

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**Tel.:** +62-21 3435-9055/9048/9223 OR +62-21 3435-9000

**Address:** 5 Jalan Medan Merdeka Selatan, Jakarta 10110 INDONESIA